

Primary Care Physician Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2014

Members Present: Kathryn Koncsol-Banner, MD, Co-Chair; David Bourassa, MD, Co-Chair; Stanley Block, MD; Michael Fine, MD, Director of HEALTH (by phone); Steven Kempner, MD; Elizabeth Lange, MD; Diane Siedlecki, MD; Richard Wagner, MD; Guests: Katherine Jarrell, Bill Hagan; Sherry Schilb; Kim Harris; Samantha Greenberg; John Fulton; Mark Francesconi; Tricia Washburn; Jill D'Errico.

Members and Alternates Unable to Attend: Gregory Allen, Jr., DO; David Ashley, MD; Munawar Azam, MD; Thomas Bledsoe, MD; Jeffrey Borkan, MD; Mark Braun, MD; Denise Coppa, PhD, RNP; Steven DeToy; Nitin Damle, MD; Sara Fessler, MD; Michael Felder, DO, MA; Patricia Flanagan, MD; Cynthia Holzer, MD, CMD; Albert Puerini Jr., MD; Anne Neuville, RNP; John Solomon, DO; Patrick Sweeny, MD, PhD, MPH; Jennifer Thiesen; Newell Warde, PhD.

Open Meeting/Old Business: PCPAC Co-Chair, Dr. Banner, called the meeting to order at 7:35 AM. Notes were discussed and accepted at 7:38.

First Agenda: HEALTH Influenza Vaccine for Medicare Fee-for Service Patients
-Tricia Washburn and Mark Francesconi

- There were three options on what HEALTH could do since CMS announced that they would no longer be reimbursing the state programs for the Medicare fee-for-service-population.
 1. Order through HEALTH, then the provider would reimburse HEALTH
 2. Order directly through manufacturers
 3. Refer patients to pharmacy
- Long-term care facilities will bill Medicare for the administration and cost of vaccine.
- Blended systems often don't work, which may be a missed opportunity for contact as many individuals may go to pharmacies or other places. Some practices are decided not to give the vaccine at all because of the amount of information and work needed.
- As an ACO, doctors are being measured on how many seniors are getting the vaccine, so if the doctor doesn't give it they will have to find another way to get that information.

Suggestions from PCPAC members:

- A letter will be written by the PCPAC to be sent to the senators and copied to the D.C. HHS.

Questions:

1. Do we have a benchmark or how many cases there are and who this number includes?

The number of approximately 30,000 Medicare Fee-For-Service includes everyone, and is not broken down by specific populations (i.e. nursing homes).

2. Are we getting the CDC lowest price? No- the CDC will no longer allow for reimbursement of vaccines. HEALTH is using the Minnesota Multi-State Cooperative, which is very comparable to other sources considering the types of vaccine that they are getting.

3. Has HEALTH pointed out to the CDC that this may drive these patients to Medicare Advantage, which is the opposite of what the ACA wants?

HEALTH has discussed this and voiced their concerns to them.

Second Agenda: Public Health Grand Rounds

-John Fulton

Information about Grand Rounds:

- HEALTH started Grand Rounds, in partnership with Brown, in 2012. The audience is anyone in the primary care community, and the lectures are recorded for further viewing on the Brown website.
- The RI Foundation may fund a series of workshops, so a letter from the PCPAC in support of a Grand Round series would be very helpful in moving forward. Future funding from SAMHSA and NIAAA may be possible, as each Grand Rounds costs \$1925.00.

Suggestions from PCPAC members:

Breaking the topics into series could be a good practice. These topics could include:

- Opioids- use, programs, options for treatment, referrals for treatments, risk management to prescribing/not prescribing, and administration of NARCAN
- Mental health- issues such as bullying, depression, access to treatment
- Hepatitis C- new drugs, recommendations from Medicare for exclusion/inclusion, ACI (where 53% refused to be tested)
- Woman's issues- mammography, Alzheimer rates
- Cardiovascular issues- hypertension, lifestyle changes, statin drugs.
- Stimulants for ADHD
- Elderly drivers

The website for Americans RI provides all resources for treatment both locally and links to national help. Information can be found at Samaritansri.org

Questions:

1. Can we link HEALTH to Brown or at least have a list of topics and credits available on the HEALTH website?

The system that Brown has does require registering, than a manual step to get an account set up. Just a reminder that not all CME's on the Brown website are free. John will look into posting on the HEALTH website the current CME's available and which requirements they would cover.

2. How many people generally attend Grand Rounds?

Usually 30 people generally attend on-site, but because of the parking situation only 5-10 people came last month. Generally 40 more view on line.

Announcements- A new OPCRH Chief has been appointed at HEALTH, and will start in mid-May.

There is a public hearing at HEALTH on May 27 concerning the rules and regulations on pain management regulation changes.

The parking issue continues to be a problem, as only 7 people showed up for the PCPAC meeting, and the numbers at other open forums have reduced drastically.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 AM

Next Meeting: May 21 at 7:30 AM in 401.